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Dkt. 57005-A-PCT-US/JPW/AJM/NFM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE *Dec 18.31.02*

Applicants : Robert J. Winchester, et al.
Serial No. : 09/773,876 Examiner: R. Schwadron
Filed : January 31, 2001 Group Art Unit: 1644
For : USE OF INHIBITORS OF THE ACTIVATION OF CXCR4
RECEPTOR BY SDF-1 IN TREATING RHEUMATOID
ARTHRITIS

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
December 18, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

DEC 30 2002

Sir:

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 18, 2002 OFFICE ACTION

This Amendment is submitted in response to the September 18, 2002 Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the September 18, 2002 Office Action is due December 18, 2002. Accordingly, this response is being timely filed.

Please amend this application as follows:

In the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract with the following:

B1
This invention provides a method for treating rheumatoid arthritis and other forms of inflammatory arthritis which comprises administering to a subject an amount of an agent effective to inhibit the activation of the CXCR4 receptor by SDF-1. This